

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Serial No.: 09/780,273  
Docket No. 869.018US1

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an oil/fat component;

salt, present at a level to provide a salty taste; and

a sweetening effective amount of sucralose.

**REMARKS**

The Applicant respectfully requests that the Preliminary Amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

The new claims have support throughout the specification.

The specification has also been amended for clarification. Specifically, text from pages 31-32 of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/596,275, an application originally incorporated by reference into the present application, has been affirmatively added. The text has been revised for consistency with the terminology used in the present application. No new matter has been added as a result.

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The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (515-233-3865) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

BARRIE R. FROSETH ET AL.

By their Representatives,

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Date JANUARY 14, 2003

By

Barbara J. Clark

Barbara J. Clark

Reg. No. 38,107

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 15th day of January, 2003.

Name

Dawn M. Poole

Signature

Dawn M. Poole